

The public is well aware of the POLARIS system, your contribution to seeing that our country is well armed. But there is an old saying, "Forewarned is fore-armed," and I only wish that your countrymen could be told more about your contributions to the knowledge which is so essential to the maintenance of our national security.

In this day and age, it would be valid to say that "The strong man fore-armed keepeth his peace." And just as the POLARIS is one of our first lines of defense against the great global war we hope will never come, so is the intelligence information which is so vital to making the grave decisions which could lead to peace or war.

Your tenure as Director of Central Intelligence was all too brief for anybody but an old sailor who

had already earned his retirement before I called him back to Washington. But I know that five years from now, and ten years from now, we will still be reaping benefits from the contributions which you made to the CIA while you were there.

And brief as your stint was, the CIA people seem as usual to have made a permanent partisan out of anybody who gets close enough to know their caliber and their performance. I am delighted that you have undertaken--as far as security permits--to tell the public how well-served we are by the Central Intelligence Agency.

It is the lot of those who direct our intelligence agencies, and of those who work for them, that you work in silence, you sometimes fail in silence, and more often you succeed in silence.

It is unfortunate that you must also suffer in silence the uninformed criticism of those who

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do not know what they are talking about. It is intolerable that you must put up with abuse from those who may be better informed, but feel free to distort, to misrepresent, or to abuse the truth because they know that you will not answer--- especially those who both morally and legally owe you not abuse, but loyalty.

And so I am glad that there have been occasions from time to time when I, and my predecessors in this office, have been able to set the record straight, and express our confidence in the invaluable, expert, dedicated service which the leaders and the personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency have given this nation.

This is another one of those occasions, Admiral Raborn. It gives me great pleasure to

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affirm that you have indeed left everything
ship-shape at the Central Intelligence Agency,
and, as your Commander-in-Chief, to signal:
"Well-done!"